

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bolivia
SUBJECT Bolivian Government Sale of Farm Tractors to Planned Co-operatives

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ALLUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
RAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Bolivian Government has purchased 100 farm tractors, 60 from the United States, believed to have been made by the International Harvester Company, and 40 from Germany. These 100 tractors are now at Arica, Chile. The Ministry of Indian Affairs plans to organize in rural Bolivia 100 co-operatives, of Indians or non-Indian landowners or both, each to purchase one tractor from the government. The terms of sale are currently planned to be payment of 10% of cost each year, with 7% per annum interest on the unpaid balance.
2. Organization by the Ministry of Indian Affairs of one such co-operative in Cochabamba was to begin in the week commencing 16 February 1953.

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Comment. [REDACTED] a plantation or estate in Bolivia that is run on businesslike principles usually amortizes a tractor in three years, not ten; that usual interest in Bolivia is 1% a month; but that the provision for sale rather than an outright gift, and the inclusion in the eligible class of non-Indian landowners, are much more moderate and middle-of-the-road than the plans generally credited to the Ministry of Indian Affairs, which is headed by Nuflo CHAVEZ.

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